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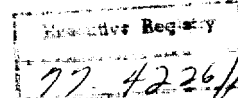
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Approved For Release 2004/03/17 : CIA-RDP80M00165A000500350004-8

NI No. 2020-77

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505



C-14

17 August 1977

6 May 77

National Intelligence Officers

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
VIA: D/DCI/NI
FROM: James R. Lilley
National Intelligence Officer for China
SUBJECT: Travel of James R. Lilley to the
People's Republic of China
REFERENCE: My Memorandum dated 6 May 1977,
NI No. 1087-77, Subject:
George Bush Travel to China

1. Action Recommended: Recommend that you raise with Secretary Vance after he returns from China the importance to CIA of a trip to the People's Republic of China by me, James Lilley, NIO/China. This memorandum gives you the background and the reasons why such a trip would be of value to CIA and the intelligence community.

2. Background: In January 1977 the Chinese invited George Bush for a trip to China. One month later Bush agreed to go and said he would like to take me with him along with some others. The Chinese voiced no objection to Bush's suggestion. In May Bush submitted a list to the Chinese including me and the Chinese subsequently told him and me that they were pleased that their government had approved the trip and specifically my travel. Both the Department of State and the National Security Council have been informed of these arrangements since the beginning.

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NIO/CH-JRLilley:fmt

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NI No. 1087-77

Executive Registry

77-4226

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National Intelligence Officer for China
SUBJECT: George Bush Travel to China

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1. Action Requested: None. This memorandum is for your information.

2. Background: In January 1977 at a farewell dinner for George Bush given by Ambassador Huang Chen of the People's Republic of China Liaison Office in Washington, Huang invited Bush to visit China and Bush indicated his interest in doing so. The Chinese followed this up with a phone call to Bush the next day. After talking with me Bush told the Chinese he would like to go to China in the fall of 1977, visit Tibet and certain other areas, and take a group with him. At a farewell luncheon in February 1977, Bush raised my name directly with Ambassador Huang as a travelling companion. The Chinese agreed "in principal" that it would be a good idea for me to revisit China. This does not mean a commitment by them. In April the Chinese formally invited Bush, asked him to bring a group of Bush's own choosing and said the itinerary could be worked out later. Bush intends to include my name in the group to accompany him.

3. I got to know George Bush when we were together in Peking between October 1974 and March 1975. As a result he is aware I have certain Chinese credentials. Bush wants a sinologist with him on this trip and I am his first choice. DDO and myself believe it is important to establish the precedent that an intelligence officer can travel to China on trips with

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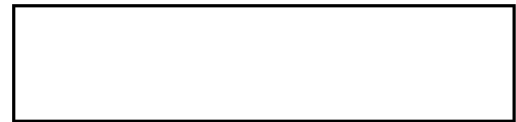
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the approval of the Chinese government.



4. Coordination: DDO is aware of these developments. NSC is also aware and approves of my travel with Bush in principal.



James R. Lilley

cc: DDCI

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